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REVIEWED BY W. E. Schwaner 9/18/87

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Abstract

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1 IN APRIL 1979, MYD GENERAL MIKHAIL SERGEYEVICH KRYLOV, DIRECTOR OF THE MYD POLICE ACADEMY, ALSO, ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, TOOK HIS OWN LIFE.

[REDACTED]

4. SINCE FILING REF (B) EMBASSY HAS COME ACROSS A SECOND OBITUARY FOR PAPUTIN, IN THE NEWSPAPER "SOVIET SPORT" FOR JANUARY 3. UNLIKE THE PRAYDA OBITUARY, THIS ONE INCLUDES THE EXPECTED PHOTOGRAPH. ALSO UNLIKE THE PRAYDA OBITUARY, THIS ONE GIVES AT LEAST SOME INKLING OF THE POSSIBLE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING PAPUTIN'S END WHEN IT NOTES THAT IT WAS "AN UNTIMELY DEATH."

5. COMMENT: WHAT WE JUDGE TO BE THE APPARENTLY WIDESPREAD RUMORS AS TO PAPUTIN'S SUICIDE MIGHT IN FACT BE TRUE: A SUICIDE.

[REDACTED] SHOULD HELP EXPLAIN THE LOW-LEVEL OF SIGNATURES ATTACHED TO PAPUTIN'S OBITUARY IN PRAYDA AND THE OTHER DEPARTURES FROM PRECEDENT NOTED IN REF (B). ON THE OTHER HAND, THE RUMORS MAY INDEED BE DESIGNED TO BLUR EVEN FURTHER ANY CONNECTION IN THE PUBLIC MIND BETWEEN PAPUTIN'S DEATH AND HIS POSSIBLE PRESENCE AT THE TIME IN AFGHANISTAN.

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